

TRANSCRIPT OF BROADCAST

By
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Station WGMS at 7-7:15 P. M.
13 February 1958

Tonight, ladies and gentlemen, let's take another look at some of the defectors from Free Europe operations overseas, former employees or connections with the organization who've defected and gone behind the iron curtain, particularly those whom I listed in my syndicated column last October and whom the Crusade for Freedom and the Free Europe Committee, in their present drive to raise funds, are trying to repudiate. I gave you documentation night before last on the case of Marie Vvorokova, straight from the Free Europe files in Munich, with the document item number and complete identification of the record.

Tonight let's take a look at the case of Ladislav Zaplikov (?), whom I said was secretary of the association of Free Czechoslovakian Refugees, and I quote directly from that column. As such he was custodian of all records, files, and information obtained from refugees, including much material about the Czech underground at home. When he left, he took everything with him. He presently is in Prague in a top position in the premilitary training organization Svazarm. Now that's the end of the quote from the column.

This installment tonight is especially important because it illustrates the tricky manner in which the Crusade for Freedom splits hairs to make the truth appear to be what they want it to be and not what it really is, as you will see. In their so-called fact sheet, attempting to defend themselves from the facts as I have exposed them, this what they have to say about this Zaplikov case, quote: Ladislav Zaplikov--he was never employed in any capacity by Radio Free Europe, nor did he have any connection whatever with Radio Free Europe. There is a record of a person of this name who was a representative of the American Fund for Czechoslovak Refugees in Italy, who redefected to Czechoslovakia in November of 1955."

Now, once again, my correspondents in Munich have supplied me with the file on Ladislav Zaplikov from the Free Europe headquarters in Munich, supplied it by microfilm and by photostat, and I have that file before me. Once again to be helpful to the Free Europe cloak-and-dagger playboys in New York, in case they're interested, this is labeled item no. 9832-55,

and I'll repeat this for them later if they want to get a pencil and paper and write it down, a little service we have on this program. Priority, APDI 2-608-K3. Copies to Messrs. (garble), Walker, Griffiths, Chamberlain, (garble) and Translation schools. Then underscored the following title: The Case of Czechoslovak Refugee Zaplikov, representative of the American fund for Czechoslovak Refugees and the Czechoslovak Committee in Italy.

Appended to this is a four-page closely spaced report from the Free Europe reporter correspondent in Rome, Italy, done in the Czech language, but, on the first page in English, is the following English synopsis. Let me read it to you. "Zaplikov, representative of the American Fund for Czechoslovak Refugees in Italy, left for Czechoslovakia on November 3, 1955. Up to the last moment, he played the part of the perfect official, seeing to all the needs of the refugees in the San Antonio, Italy, camp. However, we have now learned that he has been in contact with the Czechoslovak ambassador in Rome for some time and often went to visit someone in Salerno. He also received express letters which did not bear the sender's address. On October 28, anniversary of the foundation of the Czechoslovak Communist Republic, Ladislav Zaplikov left the camp for Rome, he stayed at the Czechoslovak Embassy for two days, and took with him the agendas of the committee and the American fund for Czechoslovak refugees. This material was photographed and copied. Before leaving, Zaplikov left the archives at the Salerno police station."

Now you'll recall the statement in the Crusade for Freedom fact sheet which I read you that Zaplikov was never employed in any capacity by Radio Free Europe, nor did he have any connection whatever with Radio Free Europe. This is technically true. Zaplikov never was employed by Radio Free Europe and never had any connection with it. What he was connected with was the collateral branch of the Free Europe Committee in Munich, the Free Europe exile relations operation, headed by a man by the name of Bernard Yarro in New York, a Russian-born individual who was reported to be a great friend of Secretary of State Dulles and at one time connected with the Dulles law firm.

The connection with Free Europe exile relations was that this FEER, the exile relations, headed by Mr. Yarro, supports the Czechoslovak committee in Italy, of which Zaplikov was the representative. The statement of this Crusade handout tries to leave the impression, of course, that Zaplikov had no connection whatsoever with the Free Europe operations by

stating that he had no connection with Radio Free Europe. It does not mention that he had very much of a connection with the Free Europe exile program and mentioned only the first of the two connections listed in its own file on Zaplikov, the American Fund for Czechoslovak Refugees.

You can judge for yourself whether this is forthright information that the Crusade is feeding to its sponsors, its contributors, and the public. Now to go a little farther in this matter, I've had a translation made of the full Czech language report from the Free Europe correspondent in Rome, the English synopsis of which I've already read to you. And it might be helpful to have some of the gory details about Mr. Zaplikov from the RFE reporters own unexpurgated account. Here goes..."On October 28, early in the morning, Zaplikov left with Kass for Rome. Before this he was trying to find someone in the camp who would lend him a bigger suitcase. That day he carried along with him two suitcases in which he had the entire files and records of the Czechoslovak committee--this is the one set up and supported by the Free Europe outfit--and of the American Fund. These files contained all communications over the previous five years. They returned to the camp in a half-drunken condition. In Rome, in the Communist Czechoslovakian Embassy, the entire files and records were photographed. (They admitted this to some of the people in in camp.) By way of corroborating this, parts of the information and records have since shown up conspicuously in Prague, with the most important paragraphs marked.

The situation among the Czechoslovak refugees in the camp from that time until his departure was very strained. They were whispering that the relatives of other refugees who had been in contact with Zaplikov and who had entrusted him with confidential information would now be persecuted in Czechoslovakia. Some of the refugees went to police and asked if they'd seize the material from Zaplikov, and they were assured that this would be done and that he would not be permitted to leave the country with them. And he actually did return the original files to a police station before he defected back to Czechoslovakia. (Unfortunately, however, the whole mass of documents had been photostated or microfilmed in the embassy and the police never got these because they knew nothing about it.)

The Czech language report goes on in some length to give further details of the activities and background, explaining how he covered virtually every refugee camp in Italy from time to time and interviewed the refugees, getting all possible information, and he was doing this as the representative of the Free Europe-supported Czechoslovak committee in Italy--on the payroll of that organization. This was the material which he took back to Czechoslovakia and the Communist Government.

Now let's look back again to what the Crusade for Freedom is telling its sponsors and its officers and the corporation officials whom its attempting to put the bite on for big contributions and the public in order to make it appear that the facts, as I have presented them, are not true. "He was never employed in any capacity by Radio Free Europe, nor did he ever have any connection whatever with Radio Free Europe. There is a record of a person of this name who was a representative of the American Fund for Czechoslovak refugees in Italy who redefected to Czechoslovakia in November 1955." But the fact that he was connected with the other Free Europe committee is carefully concealed.